



Berlin/Boylston Public Schools

Special Education Parent Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

- Date:** May 27, 2015 7:00PM
- Meeting Place:** Tahanto Regional Middle/High School Multi-Purpose Room
- In attendance:** Karen Groccia, Christina Stille, Karen Molnar, Lori Michalak, Paula Beaulac
- Membership/ Minutes:** Via email: April minutes are in process but not yet complete.
Rochelle Peret
- Financial:** Current balance: \$1257.28. Excellent Educator Award expenses - \$95.58
Lori Michalak to reimburse Lori. Checks for scholarship will be written and delivered to Karen Groccia for award at graduation (\$300 x 2 winners).
- Communications:** none
- PR Report:** PR for May meeting went out to all usual outlets. Picked up by Banner,
Karen Groccia Tahanto PTO and posted on Facebook and Yahoo!Group. Drafted Election Appeal Flyer (attached) and will complete that for June approval and mailing after end of school year. Last minute PR for Scholarship applications sent out. Will prep press release for Ex Ed recipients for release in early June, after Tahanto awards are given out.
- PPS:** School budgets approved. It was decided that IF PARCC testing is
Karen Molnar chosen, we will only have one session of testing in future years, not two.
- OLD BUSINESS**
- Excellent Educator Awards** BMS' Awards presented during their teacher appreciation week by Rochelle
Lori Michalak Peret, BES were presented by Christi Stille during the day of the Teacher Appreciation lunch. Lori Michalak delivered Tahanto's Awards to Diane Tucceri for distribution at their June staff meeting.
- Executive Board Positions** All of the SEPAC executive board positions are available: Berlin Co-President, Boylston Co- President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Karen Groccia brought a draft flyer for approval (attached) and will complete it for mailing out to all families with IEPs and 504's and will publish on Facebook page and Yahoo!Group.

Fundraiser: Ligia Turnquist will once again head this up. We got Parents' night dates and she will finalize the delivery schedule to submit to MCM by June 19th so we can make maximum profit from the sale.

School Aide/Para/ Substitute Form Lori Michalak will research and draft a quick form that could be completed by parents and/or TEAM during the TEAM meeting (or meeting with Principal for 504's) to create a quick summary that Aides, Paras and Subs could use to know which kids have particular or significant needs. This info would be part of a folder of info that is kept for substitute teachers. We had some discussion around privacy concerns and will look into how to address them.

NEW BUSINESS

Scholarship Apps A total of three applications were received. SEPAC members present at the meeting reviewed them anonymously and voted unanimously for the two that best answered a question on the application. Thanks to Janet Ament and the District Office for collecting and redacting the individual applications. Press release will be sent out in early June, after graduation.

Graduation Presentations Karen Groccia volunteered to make the scholarship presentations, if her husband could go and photograph the winners. If he cannot attend, Christi Stille would go instead.

Summer Planning Session(s) We will meet on Wednesday, July 22 (location TBD) to plan next year's calendar and events. If we need a second summer session, we've tentatively scheduled Wednesday, August 19th. Members are welcome to attend, but no public notice will be issued as these are planning sessions only.

Parent Survey We would like to send out a survey to parents this year, since it's been quite some time since we've polled the group for feedback/ideas. We will start creating questions immediately. We can also possibly ask School Counselors about the issues they see in the student population.

SCHOOL MEETING REPORTS

BES School Council: Paul Goodhind's last day at BES will be Friday, May 29th, and no further meetings have been scheduled at this time. Ken Tucker will act as interim principal until the end of the school year. Karen Groccia will step down from the BES School Council except for editing the handbook, if the new principal would like her to do this. Another SEPAC member is urged and welcome to step in to serve or to just attend these open-to-the-public meetings starting in Sep 2015.

Boylston PTO: new principal at BES is Ace Thompson.

Regional School Committee: No SpEd issues to report
BMS School Committee: No SpEd issues to report
BES School Committee: No SpEd issues to report
Tahanto STAAGS PTO: No SpEd issues to report
Berlin LINK: No SpEd issues to report
BUSS: No SpEd issues to report

(Berlin United to Support our Students)

Superintendent's School Council: No SpEd issues to report

M/s/p to adjourn

Meeting adjourned 8:50pm

Approved: Electronic approvals on file.

_____ Christi Stille, Co-President

_____ Karen Groccia, Vice President

_____ Lori Michalak, Treasurer

_____ Rochelle Peret, Secretary

Submitted by:



Karen Groccia, Vice President/Acting Secretary



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Parents & Guardians with Students on IEPs or 504 Plans

*Please consider serving on the SEPAC Board
for the 2015-16 School Year!*



Co-President - Berlin

2 year term



Vice President

1 year term



Treasurer

1 year term



Co-President - Boylston

2 year term



Secretary

1 year term

*Help the SEPAC to Support all Families of
Students with Special Needs!*

Contact: Christi Stille, Election Coordinator

election@sepac-berlin-boylston.org

or check out the Bylaws on our website
for job descriptions and more information!

<http://www.sepac-berlin-boylston.org>

